

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



1273

FEB 29 1937

U. S. Department of Agriculture.

*Price List, 1937*

# Nursery Stock

John Robertson's Nursery  
Hot Springs, South Dakota



It will be 41 years ago next spring since we planted the first apple trees on our place, and we still have those first trees living and bearing fruit. Our place is located in the Black Hills section of Fall River county, South Dakota. We have dry subsoil land, get an average rainfall of around 17 inches, do not have any way of irrigating, but get the needed moisture by spacing all trees and other plants, including that of garden and field crops, much farther apart than is customary, then keeping all weeds and other crops out from between. In beginning, we spaced apple trees 30 feet apart each way; later we spaced some at 40 feet. During late years we have dug out a number of trees in parts of the orchard where the roots have met up in competition with each other, so requiring more moisture than space between affords. We head all trees low too, including plums and other fruits, because this way induces earlier and heavier bearing, with less effect from winds, easier picking, longer life, and better in most every way. Our main occupation is the growing of fruits for market, so nursery stock is only a small side issue. We are quite often sold out in this line each spring, so it is not often that we have many of the larger sizes to offer. We have over 150 varieties of apples on the place, many of which are only on trial by top grafting on bearing trees. This system has given us

first hand knowledge as to the comparatively few kinds that are best and most adapted. It is the same way with pears, plums, cherries, currants, gooseberries, raspberries, and grapes; we have many varieties but only propagate a limited number of the very best to offer as nursery stock.

Many orchards and garden places might be improved greatly by the construction of one or more dams or ditches for the holding of runoff water. One makes a success of growing things about in proportion to the degree of liking, knowledge and effort that he puts into the work. Dig into the ground in learning about the root systems of trees, and do not plant young trees in the way of filling vacancies amongst long established plantings, where the ground is already filled with roots in competition for moisture and fertility. I write this in the way of helping others get ideas of best methods. We are not simply trying to sell nursery stock, but wish each customer to have it become one of his best paying investments in later years.

You can get a measure of help through joining your State Horticultural Society. North and South Dakota are now combined in issuing a monthly magazine full of helpful articles that goes to each member; and besides this you are entitled to a selection from a goodly list of choice plants, including fruits, flowers, and vegetables. Send one dollar, the annual fee, to Walter A. Simmons, Court House, Sioux Falls, S. D.

### **VARIETIES TO PLANT**

I like having the customer make his own selections as much as possible when ordering; but in case of his being undecided we are always pleased to make selections for him. In such cases simply tell us something about your soil and location; and if you have some fruits planted already, tell us as near as you can what they are so we will not duplicate in these too much.

### **ORDER EARLY**

The nursery stock that you get from us is all grown at home. By doing this way we know that everything is true to name, and that each fruit tree has a hardy root system. We do not practice

the common custom of buying at wholesale from other nurseries in lines we are short in. When a variety is sold out that is the end of it till another supply can be grown. When your order reaches us early, you still have time to send elsewhere if we reply that we are sold out in certain items.

### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Five of one kind, and ten of not more than three varieties, at ten rates. Where long lists of one or two of a kind are wanted, they must be paid for at single rates. No orders booked or shipped until paid for in full. Send enough money to cover cost of sizes and varieties of your choice, and say if you will allow us to substitute other sizes and varieties for any we may be out of. It is not our intention to substitute without permission, though we sometimes do this with orders sent so late that there is not time left for delay writing about it. If very particular that each item be according to order, please mention this. Any balance due a customer is returned not later than date of filling his order. We do not try to keep a balance by suggesting that the customer take something that he has not asked for. Each one is notified by letter at the time his stock is sent, whether by mail or express. We pay postage on orders going by mail; but send a little larger and heavier stock by express, that is paid by customer. If there is any complaint at the time you receive stock, notify me at once. We do not replace "free" nor at "half price" but we do try making our mistakes good.

Address all orders to John Robertson, Drawer 242, Hot Springs, South Dakota.

### **VARIETIES AND PRICE**

Apples and Crabs—Named in order of ripening; Yellow Transparent, Anoka, Duchess, Wealthy, McIntosh, and Haralson; and the crabs: Whitney, Dolgo and Olga. The Dolgo and Olga are best for jellies.

We have a few trees in each of Sasha, Orleans, Melba, Lobo, Joan, Macoun, and Earlham, that we think are some of the best in new apples. The Sasha is a sweet apple.

2 to 3 feet size, 40c each; per 10, \$3.50

Pears—We have several trees in each of Parker, Tait No. 1, Tait No. 2, Mendel, and Sudduth. The Parker is of large size and good. The Tait numbers are only medium sized, but fine eating, and are extra hardy.

2 to 3 feet size, 40c each; per 10, \$3.50

Cherries—We have the common red and black to offer in 2-3 feet size at 35c each; per 10, \$3.00. Larger sizes at 50c each; per 10, \$4.50.

Plums—The Opata and Sapa are sand cherry hybrids, that will fertilize and bear better if planted in vicinity of each other. We also have a few in the new Mordena, that is a strong grower and extra hardy. Then we have the Champa, that is more in the sand cherry line, but is a fine fruit and extra hardy. In the line of real hybrid plums we have the Tecumseh, Haralson No. 4, Waneta, Assiniboine, Kaga, Ember, Minnesota No. 225, and a few in others that are fine.

2 to 3 feet size, 40c each; per 10, \$3.50

3 to 4 feet size, 50c each; per 10, \$4.50

Currants—The Wilder and Diploma are of the largest size and best. We also have a few Red Lake. Then there is the Franco-German that is smaller in fruit but is later to ripen and grows to largest size in bush. Price 25c each; per 10, \$2.00.

Gooseberries—We only have a few small plants in the fine Pixwell variety, at 25c each; per 10, \$2.00.

Raspberries—The Latham has been our leading market kind for years. We also have a few in the new Chief, which is a good bearer and starts ripening a week ahead of Latham. Both of these are red. We have some plants in a new black seedling that originated on the place, and is proving superior to all blacks we have tried. Price of all raspberries, each 10c; per 10, 75c; per 25, \$1.25; per 50, \$2.00; per 100, \$3.50.

Grapes—We have the Monitor, Dakota, and Suelter, named in order of ripening, and hardy without winter cover. These are strong growers, bearing medium sized fruit, very good for jellies. Price each 25c; per 10, \$2.00.